

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 VO-01 CA-01 PPT-01 A-01
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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY BANJUL POUCH
AMEMBASSY BISSAU POUCH
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2010

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 8243

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CGEN, OTRA
SUBJECT: SENEGALESE VISA POLICY

REF DAKAR 7073 AND PREVIOUS

1. EMBASSY HAS CONDUCTED FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH HIGH-LEVEL
GOS OFFICIALS WITH THE AIM OF ALLEVIATING UNDUE HARDSHIP PLACED
ON OFFICIAL AMERICAN TRAVELLERS BY NEW SENEGALESE VISA POLICY.

EMBASSY, WITH TACIT APPROVAL OF MIN. OF INTERIOR, PROPOSES TO
IMPLEMENT FOLLOWING PROCUDURES ON A TRIAL BASIS.

2. IN CASES OF URGENT TRAVEL TO SENEGAL ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS
OR FOR MEDICAL REASONS, TRAVELLER SHOULD APPLY FOR SENEGALESE
VISA IN NORMAL MANNER AND INFORM EMBASSY DAKAR BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM
OF DATES OF TRAVEL, NATURE OF TRIP AND DATE VISA APPLICATION SUB-
MITTED. DAKAR WILL PASS THIS INFO TO MOI WHO WILL EXPEDITE
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VISA CLEARANCE AND ISSUANCE THROUGH APPROPRIATE SENEGALESE
EMBASSY. MOI HAS INSURED AMBASSADOR OF WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE IN
THIS MANNER. SHOULD CIRCUMSTANCES OR LACK OF TIME
PRECLUDE FOLLOWING THESE STEPS, DAKAR REMINDS
POSTS THAT AIRPORT VISA STILL OBTAINABLE UPON ARRIVAL WITH
NO PRIOR NOTICE OR ARRANGEMENTS NECESSARY; HOWEVER THIS
PRIVILEGE SHOULD NOT BE ABUSED.

3. DAKAR RECOMMENDS THAT OFFICIAL AMERICANS WHO WISH TO TRAVEL TO
SENEGAL

FOR TOURISM OR ON PRIVATE BUSINESS OBTAIN TOURIST
PASSPORTS AND APPLY FOR SENEGALESE TOURIST VISAS. MOI INDICATED
THAT CASES OF THIS SORT DO NOT FALL WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF NEW
VISA POLICY AND HENCE DO NOT HAVE TO BE REFERRED TO MOI FOR
DECISION. TRAVELLERS WHO DO NOT CHOOSE THIS OPTION
RUN RISK OF BEING REFUSED VISA BY SENEGALESE FOR REASONS OUTLINED
IN REFTEL. SUCH REFUSALS SHOULD BE EXPECTED FROM TIME TO TIME.
DAKAR'S PROPOSAL IS NOT MEANT TO ELIMINATE THEM ENTIRELY, BUT ONLY
TO AVOID REFUSAL IN CASES WHERE THERE IS A LEGITIMATE AND
URGENT NEED TO TRAVEL.

4. DAKAR WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT SENEGALESE EMBASSIES IN ADDRESSEE
COUNTRIES ARE NOT PRIVY TO THIS ARRANGEMENT. UNDER NO CIR-
CUMSTANCES SHOULD THE PROCEDURES GIVEN IN THIS MESSAGE BE
DISCUSSED WITH SENEGALESE OFFICIALS.
COHEN

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